

Ref. T3/3.01

SHIP/PORT INTERFACE

Safety problems connected with intermodal transport

1 The Facilitation Committee, at its twenty-fourth session and the Maritime Safety Committee, at its sixty-sixth session, considered safety problems connected with intermodal transport, noting that the Panel of Experts on Ro-Ro Ferry Safety had advised that their safety depended in part upon the proper stowage and securing of cargo inside cargo transport units (CTUs).

2 The Committees recalled that, over the recent years, a number of competent authorities had carried out surveys concerning carriage of dangerous cargoes in CTUs, which had shown a consistently high level of non-compliance with dangerous goods transport regulations, the main deficiencies identified principally concerning stowage and securing within the CTUs.

3 The Committees are of the opinion that these deficiencies may well extend to all types of cargo, thereby posing a danger to the safety of life at sea and the whole chain of the intermodal transport as well as to the environment, as has been noted from various accidents.

4 The Committees noted that, as a result of the observed deficiencies, the IMO/ILO Guidelines for packing cargo in freight containers or vehicles are being revised.

5 The Committees further noted that the Recommendations on the Safe Transport of Dangerous Cargoes and Related Activities in Port Areas have been issued as MSC/Circ.675 and issued as an IMO publication containing, *inter alia*, a chapter on training and awareness. The Committees agreed that the principles contained in the Recommendations should be extended to cover the loading of stowage and securing of all cargoes in CTUs.

6 The Committees, therefore, invite Member Governments:

- .1 to consider making the application of the IMO/ILO Guidelines for the Packing Cargo in Freight Containers or Vehicles mandatory for all modes of transport other than air;
- .2 to consider introducing legislation requiring:
 - .2.1 all personnel involved in the loading, stowage and securing of cargo inside CTUs to be adequately trained to a level commensurate with their responsibilities, and
 - .2.2 companies preparing CTUs for transport to employ responsible persons, specially trained, to ensure that all requirements relating to the safe transport of such units are met and the personnel involved in loading, stowage and securing of cargo in CTUs are aware of the requirements;

- .3 to review any arrangements for the verification of compliance with existing regulations and, where necessary, increase the surveys, checks or other appropriate means e.g. by enforcement agency inspectors, customs officials or approved private companies, wherever possible, before the CTU enters the transportation chain; and
 - .4 to take all necessary measures involving all parties concerned, to raise the knowledge and increase awareness, amongst those concerned with the stowage and securing of cargoes in CTUs, of any legal provisions concerning the safe transport of cargoes.
-